

## Why Provide An Interpreter?

Federal laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), require state and local government (Title II), as well as public and private entities (Title III) to provide reasonable accommodation for deaf and hard of hearing individuals. If providing a particular auxiliary aid or service would constitute an undue burden, it does not relieve the agency of the need to provide effective communication if an alternative auxiliary aid or service is available. The length, importance, and complexity of the communication, and the needs of the deaf individual, will determine whether an interpreter is necessary for effective communication. Additionally, the Missouri law requires that state or nationally certified interpreters be licensed to provide effective communication in all settings within the skill level standards (RSMo 209.285). In order to obtain a license, an interpreter must be certified by either RID, NAD, or the Missouri Interpreter Certification System (MICS).

Interpreters are used to facilitate communication, expressively and receptively, between a deaf person and hearing person, or within group settings. They are bound by a code of ethics, which requires them to be neutral and strictly confidential. By providing an interpreter deaf and hard of hearing individuals are able to benefit and participate fully and equally in discussions. Interpreters are commonly used in various settings. Some examples of such settings are:

- Educational programs and activities
- Business meetings or appointments
- Counseling sessions or consultants
- Non-emergency and emergency medical situations or appointments
- Legal procedures and meetings
- Presentations and performances

Additional information may be obtained by contacting our agency.



## MCDHH Mission Statement

The Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing functions as an agency of the state to advocate for public policies, regulations, and programs to improve the quality and coordination of existing services for individuals with hearing loss, and to promote new services whenever necessary. To these ends, the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing works with individuals, service providers, businesses, organizations, and state agencies to improve the lives and opportunities of all Missourians with hearing loss.

Coming together is a beginning,  
Staying together is progress,  
Working together is success!  
(Henry Ford)



Working to improve the  
lives and opportunities  
of all Missourians  
with hearing loss!

## Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

573-526-5205 (V/TTY)  
573-526-5209 (FAX)  
[MCDHH@mcdhh.mo.gov](mailto:MCDHH@mcdhh.mo.gov)  
[www.mcdhh.state.mo.us](http://www.mcdhh.state.mo.us)

## Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



## Interpreter Referral Agencies

Promoting  
Equal  
Access  
For  
People  
With  
Hearing  
Loss!



# List of Interpreter Referral Services for the State of Missouri



## Columbia Area

**Access Interpreter Referral Service, LLC**  
P.O. Box 435  
Fulton, MO 65251  
(573) 696-0291 Voice/TTY  
(573) 592-0901 FAX  
Emergency Pager Service:  
(573) 499-8404  
airs@tranquility.net  
www.airs-works.com

**Columbia Interpreting Services, LLC**  
12600 West Hwy EE  
Rocheport, MO 65279  
(573) 442-9876 Voice/TTY  
(573) 442-0060 FAX  
Emergency Pager Service:  
(573) 499-7543  
kalexcis@aol.com  
www.columbiainterpretingservices.com

## Kansas City Area

**Able Hands Interpreting Services, LLC**  
4505 Madison Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
(816) 751-0590 Voice/TTY  
888-34-HANDS (42637 Toll Free)  
(816) 751-0592 FAX  
interpreters@ablehands.net  
www.ablehands.net

**Deaf Expression, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 19181  
Lenexa, KS 66285  
(913) 268-DEAF (3323) Voice/TTY  
(913) 310-9849 FAX  
deafexpression@everestkc.net  
www.deafexpression.com

**Inter-Link Plus**  
P.O. Box 860285  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66286  
(913) 422-1601 Voice  
(775) 245-5231 FAX  
inter\_link\_plus@hotmail.com  
www.ilplus.com

## Kansas City Area (cont.)

**Interpreting Solutions, LLC**  
P.O. Box 245  
Osawatomie, KS 66064  
913-980-4120 Voice  
775-245-5231 FAX  
service@intepreter-solutions.com  
www.interpreting-solutions.com

**Sign Language Specialists, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 954  
Lee's Summit, MO 64063  
(816) 246-8770 Voice  
(816) 246-8569 TTY  
(816) 246-8531 FAX  
info@signlanguagespecialists.com  
www.signlanguagespecialists.com

**The Whole Person, Inc.**  
301 East Armour Boulevard, Suite 430  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
(816) 561-0304 Voice/TTY  
877-878-3078 Toll Free  
(816) 753-8163 FAX  
swalker@thewholeperson.org  
www.thewholeperson.org

## Springfield Area

**Associates in Sign Language, LLC**  
P.O. Box 1883  
Nixa, MO 65714  
(417) 889-8377 Voice/TTY/FAX  
asl@mchsi.com

## St. Joseph Area

**MERIL**  
4420 S. 40<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Joseph, MO 64506  
(816) 279-8558 Voice  
(816) 279-4943 TTY  
800-242-9346 Toll Free  
(816) 279-1550 FAX  
meril@meril.org  
www.meril.org

## St. Louis Area

**Ability Interpreting, LLC**  
P.O. Box 8236  
Belleville, IL 62222-8236  
(618) 531-4198 (Illinois Voice)  
(314) 583-5706 (Missouri Voice)  
requests@abilityinterpreting.com

**Deaf Interlink**  
P.O. Box 4070  
St. Louis, MO 63032  
(314) 837-7757 Voice  
(314) 837-7470 TTY  
800-330-7062 Toll Free  
(314) 837-0777 FAX

**Deaf Services, LLC**  
10537 Stephenson Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63128  
(314) 229-2922 Voice/Text  
(314) 849-1066 FAX  
deafservices2004@netscape.net

**Deaf Way Interpreter Referral**  
311 North Lindberg Boulevard, Suite 200  
St. Louis, MO 63141  
(314) 989-0694 Voice  
(314) 989-0757 TTY  
(314) 567-1559 FAX  
deafway@paraquad.org  
www.deafway.net

**TLC Interpreting Services**  
10738 Calvey Hills Road  
Catawissa, MO 63015  
(636) 274-1476 Voice/TTY/FAX  
(636) 485-4863 Mobile  
tlc@signcity.org  
www.signcity.org

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